

REMARKS

Claims 1-54 were pending. Claims 1-48 and 50-54 have been cancelled without prejudice. New claims 55-73 have been added and claim 49 has been amended. Support for the amendment to claim 49 and for new claims can be found throughout the application as originally filed including for example, in paragraphs [0084], [0085], and Table 93 of the application as originally filed. No new matter has been added.

The Office required Applicants to elect one of sixteen allegedly patentably distinct inventions for examination. Applicants elect herein Group XIV, drawn to methods for diagnosing cancer by polynucleotide level detection, classified in class 435, subclass 6. Claims 49 and 55-73 fall within the scope of the elected invention.

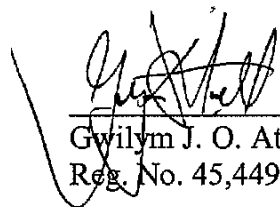
Upon entry of this amendment, claims 49 and 55-73 will be pending. Applicants respectfully request examination and allowance of claims 49 and 55-73.

Applicants reserve the right to prosecute the claims encompassed by any of the non-elected groups in future divisional applications.

Please apply any charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050 referencing Attorney Docket No.: 20366-0024001.

Respectfully submitted,

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